MESSIAH:

A NEW

Sacred ORATORIO.

Set to MUSIC by

George Frederick Handel, Esq;

And without Controverſy, great is the Myſtery of Godlineſs: GOD was manifeſted in the Fleſh, juſtify'd by the Spirit, ſeen of Angels, preached among the Gentiles, *believed on in the World, received up in Glory.*

In whom are hid all the Treaſures of Wiſdom and Knowledge.

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BRITISH
15
80
MAY

MESSIAH:

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Sacred ORATORIO.

PART I.

RECITATIVE accompanied.

I.

COMFORT ye, comfort ye my People, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to *Jerusalem*, and cry unto her, that her Warfare is accompliſh'd, that her Iniquity is pardon'd.

The Voice of him that crieth in the Wilderneſs, prepare ye the Way of the LORD, make ſtraight in the Deſart a High-Way for our GOD.

SOLO.

Every Valley ſhall be exalted, and every Mountain and Hill made low, the crooked ſtraight, and the rough Places plain.

CHORUS.

And the Glory of the LORD *ſhall be revealed, and all Fleſh ſhall ſee it together; for the Mouth of the* LORD *hath ſpoken it.*

RECITATIVE accompanied.

II.

Thus ſaith the *Lord of Hoſts*: Yet once a little while, and I will ſhake the Heavens and the Earth; the Sea, and the dry Land,

And will ſhake all Nations; and the Deſire of all Nations ſhall come.

The *Lord*, whom ye ſeek, ſhall ſuddenly come to His Temple, even the Meſſenger of the Covenant, whom ye delight in: Behold, He ſhall come, ſaith the *Lord of Hoſts*.

SOLO.

SOLO.

But who may abide the Day of His Coming?— And who ſhall ſtand when he appeareth?—For He is like a Refiner's Fire:

CHORUS.

And He ſhall purify the Sons of Levi, *that they may offer unto the* Lord *an Offering in Righteouſneſs.*

RECITATIVE.

III.

Behold, a Virgin ſhall conceive, and bear a Son, and ſhall call his Name *Emmanuel*, GOD with us.

SOLO and CHORUS.

O thou that telleſt good Tydings to Zion, *get thee up into the high Mountain: O thou that telleſt good Tydings to* Jeruſalem, *lift up thy Voice with Strength; lift it up, be not afraid: Say unto the Cities of* Judah, *Behold your* God.

Ariſe, ſhine, for the Light is come, and the Glory of the Lord *is riſen upon thee.*

RECITATIVE

RECITATIVE accompanied.

For behold, Darkneſs ſhall cover the Earth, and groſs Darkneſs the People; but the *Lord* ſhall ariſe upon thee, and his Glory ſhall be ſeen upon thee.

And the *Gentiles* ſhall come to thy Light, and Kings to the Brightneſs of thy Riſing.

SOLO.

The People that walked in Darkneſs have ſeen a great Light; they that dwell in the Land of the Shadow of Death, upon them hath the Light ſhined.

CHORUS.

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the Government ſhall be upon his Shoulder; and his Name ſhall be called Wonderful, Counſellor, *the* Mighty God, *the* Everlaſting Father, *the* Prince of Peace.

RECITATIVE.

IV.

There were Shepherds abiding in the Field, keeping Watch over the Flock by Night.

SOLO.

SOLO.

And lo, an Angel of the Lord *came upon them, and the Glory of the* Lord *ſhone round about them, and they were ſore afraid.*

RECITATIVE.

And the Angel ſaid unto them, Fear not; for behold I bring you good Tidings of great Joy, which ſhall be to all People.

For unto you is born this Day, in the City of *David*, a Saviour, which is *Chriſt* the *Lord*.

RECITATIVE accompanied.

And ſuddenly there was with the Angel a Multitude of the Heavenly Hoſt, praiſing God, and ſaying,

CHORUS.

Glory to God *in the Higheſt, and on Earth Peace, Good-Will towards Men.*

SOLO.

SOLO.

V.

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Sion: *Shout, O Daughter of* Jeruſalem: *behold thy King cometh unto thee:*

He is the righteous Saviour, and He ſhall ſpeak Peace unto the Heathen.

RECITATIVE.

Then ſhall the Eyes of the Blind be open'd, and the Ears of the Deaf unſtopped; then ſhall the lame Man leap as a Hart, and the Tongue of the Dumb ſhall ſing.

SOLO.

He ſhall feed his Flook like a Shepherd: He ſhall gather the Lambs with His Arm, and carry them in His Boſom, and gently lead thoſe that are with young.

Come unto Him all ye that labour, and are heavy loden, and He will give you Reſt.

Take His Yoke upon you, and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly in Heart, and ye ſhall find Reſt unto your Souls.

CHORUS.

For His Yoke is eaſy, and His Burden is light.

PART II.

CHORUS.

BEHOLD the Lamb of God *that taketh away the Sin of the World.*

SOLO.

He was deſpiſed and rejected of Men, a Man of Sorrows, and acquainted with Grief.

He gave His Back to the Smiters, and His Cheeks to them that plucked off Hair: He hid not His Face from Shame and Spitting.

CHORUS.

Surely He hath borne our Griefs, and carried our Sorrows:

He was wounded for our Tranſgreſſions; He was bruiſed for our Iniquities: the Chaſtiſement of our Peace was upon Him, and with His Stripes we are healed.

CHORUS.

All we, like Sheep, have gone aſtray, we have turned every one to his own Way, and the Lord *hath laid on Him the Iniquity of us all.*

RECITATIVE accompanied.

All they that ſee him laugh him to ſcorn; they ſhoot out their Lips, and ſhake their Heads, ſaying,

CHORUS.

He truſted in God, *that He would deliver him: Let Him deliver him, if he delight in Him.*

RECITATIVE accompanied.

Thy Rebuke hath broken his Heart: He is full of Heavineſs: He looked for ſome to have Pity on Him, but there was no Man, neither found He any to comfort Him.

SOLO.

SOLO.

Behold, and ſee, if there be any Sorrow like to His Sorrow.

RECITATIVE accompanied.

II.

He was cut off out of the Land of the Livving :—For the Tranſgreſſion of thy People was He ſtricken.

SOLO.

But Thou didſt not leave his Soul in Hell, nor didſt Thou ſuffer thy Holy One to ſee Corruption.

SEMICHORUS.

Lift up your Heads, O ye Gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlaſting Doors, and the King of Glory ſhall come in.

SEMICHORUS.

Who is the King of Glory?

SEMICHORUS.

The Lord Strong and Mighty; the Lord Mighty in Battle.

SEMICHORUS.

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SEMICHORUS.

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SEMICHORUS.

The Lord of Hosts: *He is the King of Glory.*

RECITATIVE.

IV.

Unto which of the Angels said He at any Time, Thou art my Son, this Day have I begotten thee?

CHORUS.

Let all the Angels of God *worship Him.*

SOLO.

V.

Thou art gone up on high; Thou hast led Captivity captive, and received Gifts for Men, yea, even for thine Enemies, that the Lord God *might dwell among them.*

CHORUS.

CHORUS.

The Lord *gave the Word: Great was the Company of Preachers.*

DUETTO and CHORUS.

How beautiful are the Feet of them that bring good Tidings of Salvation; that say unto Sion, thy God *reigneth, break forth into Joy, thy* God *reigneth.*

SOLO.

Their Sound is gone out into all Lands, and their Words unto the Ends of the World.

SOLO.

VI.

Why do the Nations so furiously rage together? And why do the People imagine a vain Thing?

The Kings of the Earth rise up, and the Rulers take Council together against the Lord, *and against His anointed.*

CHORUS.

Let us break their Bands asunder, and cast away their Yokes from us.

RECITATIVE

RECITATIVE.

VII.

He that dwelleth in Heaven ſhall laugh them to Scorn; the Lord ſhall have them in Deriſion.

SOLO.

Thou ſhalt break them with a Rod of Iron; thou ſhalt daſh them in Pieces like a Potter's Veſſel.

CHORUS.

VIII.

Hallelujah! for the Lord God *Omnipotent reigneth.*

The Kingdom of this World is become the Kingdom of our Lord *and of* Chriſt; *and He ſhall reign for ever and ever; King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.* Hallelujah.

PART III.

SOLO.

I Know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He ſhall ſtand at the latter Day upon the Earth.

And tho' Worms deſtroy this Body, yet in my Fleſh ſhall I ſee God.

For now is Chriſt *riſen from the Dead, the firſt Fruits of them that ſleep.*

CHORUS.

Since by Man came Death, by Man came alſo the Reſurrection of the Dead.

For as in Adam *all die, even ſo in* Chriſt *ſhall all be made alive.*

RECITATIVE accompanied.

Behold I tell you a Myſtery: We ſhall not all ſleep, but we ſhall all be changed, in a Moment, in the Twinkling of an Eye, at the laſt Trumpet.

SOLO.

The Trumpet ſhall ſound, and the Dead ſhall be raiſed incorruptible, and we ſhall be changed.

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For this corruptible muſt put on Incorruption, and this Mortal muſt put on Immortality.

RECITATIVE.

Then ſhall be brought to paſs the Saying that is written; Death is ſwallowed up in Victory.

DUETTO.

O Death, where is thy Sting? O Grave, where is thy Victory?

The Sting of Death is ſin, and the Strength of Sin is the Law.

CHORUS.

But Thanks be to God, *who giveth us the Victory through our* Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

SOLO.

If God *be for us, who can be againſt us?*

Who ſhall lay any Thing to the Charge of God's *Elect?*

It is God *that juſtifyeth, who is he that condemneth?*

It is Chriſt *that died, yea, rather that is riſen again; who is at the Right Hand of* God; *who maketh Interceſſion for us.*

CHORUS.

Worthy is the Lamb that was ſlain, and hath redeemed us to God *by his Blood, to receive Power and Riches, and Wiſdom, and Strength, and Honour, and Glory, and Bleſſing.*

Bleſſing, and Honour, and Glory, and Power be unto Him that ſitteth upon the Throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever. Amen.

FINIS.